



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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Agenda 09/14/2009

Diversity Task Group

Arlington Vision 2020

Agenda for Monday, September 14, 2009

7:30 p.m.

Note Different Location for this meeting only: Selectmen's Hearing Room, Arlington Town Hall, 2nd floor (Enter through portico off Town Hall parking lot on Academy St.)

Our Goal: Making sure Arlington is a welcoming town!

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Someone to take short meeting minutes this evening.
3. **With representatives from the South Sudanese Community Center in East Arlington, brainstorming collaborations between the Center and the Diversity Task Group**
4. **Preparing for Town Day: Saturday, September 26**
-Can You Work at the Diversity Table for 1 or 2 hours?
5. Planning for an October Town Hall event co-sponsored by a mental health organization
6. The Diversity Task Group Website.
7. Preliminary Planning the **Second Annual Disability Job Fair** at the Arlington Town Hall, co-sponsored by the Arlington Disabilities Commission.
8. **October Community Read activities.** Arlington's Community Read for 2009 highlights the experiences of the "Lost Boys and Girls of Sudan" by offering four books to choose from. The library is fortunate to be partnering with the South Sudanese Community Center in Arlington to offer programming that promotes a greater understanding of the Sudanese culture and the history of the conflict in Sudan. This program is co-sponsored by the Robbins Library Board of Trustees, the Friends of the Robbins Library and the Vision 2020 Diversity Task Group. Books, available at the library, are: *What is the What* by Dave Eggers; *Tears of the Desert* by Halima Bashir; *They Poured Fire on Us From the Sky* by Benjamin Ajak; *Escape From Slavery* by Francis Bok. **Activities also include a November 7 Sudanese Cultural Festival.** Find more information on the books at http://www.robbslibrary.org/pdf/SUDAN_BROCHURE.pdf. **Library Director Mary Ellen Loud will discuss the Library's and the Sudanese Center's partnership, the books and the related activities.**
9. Other Business

Schedule of future meetings for 2009 - 2010 (often the 2nd Monday of the month).

November 9, January 11, March 8, May 10.

For more information or suggestions, please feel free to contact:

Gregg Ames, Chair, at 781-777-1156 or gpages63@yahoo.com

Miriam Stein at 781-648-0255 or miriam.stein@comcast.net

The goal of the Diversity Task Group, set by Town Meeting, is: "We value the diversity of our population. Our Town's mix of ethnic, religious and cultural backgrounds, as well as economic and personal circumstances, enriches us all. We will be known for the warm welcome and respect we extend to all."